

served for thirty-two years as a school teacher, including four years on the Board of Education. At the same time, he found time to coach both football and track. Upon retirement, he was awarded the Distinguished Service Award by the Jefferson County School District.

Using his extensive command of the issues, Bob participated in and offered advice to almost every steering committee throughout his twelve years serving as County Commissioner. Building upon this, he also testified here at the nation's Capital in support of legislation to preserve and maintain public lands in Clear Creek County which are important for wildlife and the quality of life in Colorado. During this time, I was able to personally work at length with Bob in mutual support of the environment, an issue that remains high on the agenda of all Coloradans. Thanks to his leadership, more than 6,000 acres of land were properly distributed to public and private land owners, ensuring that the Front Range population will continue to enjoy this cherished and pristine land for many years.

Along these same lines, Bob has worked tirelessly on local issues in the state. As a member of the Board of Directors for the Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG), Bob spearheaded many regional policies. Working on transportation issues has proved to be one of his strong suits, as he has emphasized the creation of a new bus service to connect adjacent Clear Creek and Jefferson Counties. Another of Bob's transportation successes occurred when he helped gain approval of the Guanella Pass Road Project from the Federal Highway Administration's federal lands program. The result will be to improve this important and scenic roadway affecting numerous jurisdictions including Park County, the Town of Georgetown, and the U.S. Forest Service.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing our gratitude to Robert Poirot for his many years of public service and his contributions to the people of Colorado. Robert has displayed exceptional moral fiber throughout his life, and for that I believe we should acknowledge and celebrate his work and accomplishments. Bob's tireless dedication to his community and country stands as a model for what can be accomplished when citizens participate in our democracy. Although he is leaving his service as a county commissioner, I am sure that he will remain active and involved in the community. I wish him and his family good health and happiness for many years to come.

HONORING BILLY "TINY" RUTTER  
FOR HIS SERVICE AS A COUNTY  
COMMISSIONER OF SUMTER  
COUNTY

**HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 16, 2004*

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Billy "Tiny" Rutter for his service as a County Commissioner for Sumter County.

On behalf of the residents of Sumter County, I applaud Mr. Rutter for his years of dedication as a public servant. Since 1992, he has

worked tirelessly to provide the residents of Sumter County with excellent leadership and vision. Tiny, as he is affectionately known, can without a doubt say he has raised the level of expectation for future County Commissioners. He not only made Sumter County his home; he made it better. His longtime presence on the board will be greatly missed.

Tiny Rutter is my friend, advisor and mentor. Even when we were from different political parties, he helped me to make inroads with the Sumter County residents. He was such a passionate "Lobbyist" for the needs of Sumter County that no one could decline his ever expanding list of funding requests for the County.

Tiny's devotion to the residents of Sumter County demonstrates the intensity of virtue and selflessness that a public official should aspire to attain. Sumter County is truly saddened by Mr. Rutter's departure; nevertheless, we are immensely grateful for all his years of commitment and hard work.

I wish Mr. Rutter the best in the future and hope he fully enjoys the pleasures of retirement.

90TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. SAVA  
SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH IN  
MERRILLVILLE, INDIANA

**HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 16, 2004*

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor and enthusiasm that I congratulate the members of St. Sava Serbian Orthodox Church in Merrillville, Indiana as they celebrate their 90th anniversary. The festivities will begin on Sunday, November 14, 2004 with a special service, followed by a banquet to celebrate this momentous occasion.

Beckoning visitors who are traveling on Interstate 65, the golden domes of St. Sava offer an amazing spectacle. However, it is the interior of the church that the parishioners hold sacred. Built from Indiana limestone in a five-year construction project, the present sanctuary located at 9191 Mississippi Street in Merrillville replaced the original St. Sava Church, built in 1914 in Gary, Indiana, after that church was destroyed by fire. The dedicated members of the church came together to worship at the St. Sava "small hall" in Hobart, Indiana while plans were made for their new sanctuary. Undeterred by the loss of their church building, the congregation demonstrated their commitment to each other and to their faith by carrying on with their services at the "small hall" for 13 years.

Mr. Speaker, St. Sava Serbian Orthodox Church is led in its faith by the Very Reverend Jovan Todorovich. He has been the priest at the church for 35 of its 90 years, and the proud parishioners are thankful for the spiritual and emotional leadership he has provided during that time. Church President Michael Gallich has attended St. Sava since 1946 and is proud that the church has been able to maintain the Serbian traditions and customs that make their church unique. Father Todorovich believes the anniversary can be used to connect the new generation of the church with its past. Because the congregation has been blessed with tremendous leadership

and good fortune throughout its history, it is appropriate that the celebration of the church's anniversary will be held near the Thanksgiving holiday.

His Grace Bishop Longin, along with the Very Reverend Todorovich, will serve the Holy Hierarchical Liturgy the morning of November 14, which will be followed by a memorial service to be conducted by representatives of a local American Legion at the adjacent Memorial Park to commemorate the fallen soldiers of all wars. The celebration banquet will conclude the festivities, which will feature St. Sava's folklore group and choir, as well as tamburitza orchestras and kolo bands.

Mr. Speaker, at this time I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating the congregation of St. Sava Serbian Orthodox Church as they celebrate the 90th anniversary of their parish. Blessed with outstanding leadership and unwavering faith, the congregation of St. Sava has enriched Northwest Indiana by bringing the proud and historic Serbian traditions to our community. May God continue to bless the parishioners and the church leaders for many years to come.

RECOGNIZING MR. PAUL SALAZ

**HON. HILDA L. SOLIS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 16, 2004*

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of El Sereno's finest citizens, Mr. Paul Salaz. Even in the last years of his life Mr. Salaz continued to work on behalf of the people in his beloved home of El Sereno. However, on Friday, November 5, 2004 the community lost a great asset when Mr. Salaz passed away.

Mr. Salaz was originally from Santa Paula, California. He married his wife Julia in 1934 and the couple celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary just this year.

It was after his retirement as an upholstery salesman that Mr. Salaz dedicated his life to community service and helping the people of El Sereno. After 40 years in sales he became an active leader in Los Angeles City Council District 14, most importantly as a member of the Citizens Unit for Participation in Housing and Community Development.

I was fortunate to get to know Mr. Salaz while I was a member of the California State Senate. Mr. Salaz's ability to work with all members of the community was remarkable. He was able to work with the El Sereno Coordinating Council and elected officials of the city of Los Angeles in order to advocate an improved quality of life for all residents.

He also worked with local elected officials on numerous community improvement projects. Some of his accomplishments included the installation of new stop signs at dangerous intersections and the opening of the new Public Library in El Sereno.

Though he was involved with the community all year long, Mr. Salaz always did a little extra for special occasions. During the holiday season Mr. Salaz made sure that impoverished families received food, and gifts for children. He also personally ensured a U.S. flag would be present at the Dr. Donald Newman Memorial every year. And in addition, he encouraged neighbors and schools to participate in